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Trends

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1920 L STREET, N.W. · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 · 202/293-4196

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 11, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 6 totaled an estimated 17.0 billion ton-miles, 11.8 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 10 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 158.2 billion ton-miles, 11.5 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended March 6 totaled 397,894 cars, 13.0 percent below 1981, and 3.5 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 14.1 percent in the East, 11.3 percent in the South, and 13.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 20 of the 21 commodity groups were down. Nineteen of the 21 groups decreased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended February 27 totaled 37,947 cars, up 8.1 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 64,781 trailers and/or containers, 1.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first nine weeks of the year was 297,742 cars, 7.6 percent higher than last year, and 529,669 trailers and/or containers, up 5.8 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 3/6/82:

	Loadings in Week ended March 6, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,934	D	5,540	16.6	D	1,729	5.8
Other farm products	4,603	I	225	5.1	D	771	14.3
Metallic ores	17,904	D	8,814	33.0	D	3,753	17.3
Coal	124,773	D	6,101	4.7	D	327	0.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,858	D	2,499	22.0	I	52	0.6
Nonmetallic minerals	10,859	D	2,317	17.6	I	1,331	14.0
Grain mill products	13,368	D	1,923	12.6	D	772	5.5
Food and kindred products	14,212	D	1,803	11.3	D	1,065	7.0
Primary forest products	16,983	D	2,592	13.2	D	1,058	5.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,812	D	2,946	33.6	D	579	9.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,796	D	2,956	14.2	D	444	2.4
Chemicals and allied products	25,726	D	2,298	8.2	D	52	0.2
Petroleum products	4,562	D	462	9.2	D	343	7.0
Stone, clay and glass products	10,146	D	4,394	30.2	D	127	1.2
Coke	5,309	D	869	14.1	D	180	3.3
Metals and products	11,690	D	5,445	31.8	D	1,577	11.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,470	D	3,158	17.9	D	237	1.6
Waste and scrap materials	9,370	D	3,701	28.3	D	404	4.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,863	D	998	9.2	D	464	4.5
All other carloads	43,460	D	487	1.1	D	1,749	3.9
LCL traffic	196	D	267	57.7	D	12	5.8
Total Cars Loaded	397,894	D	59,345	13.0	D	14,260	3.5
Corresponding week of 1981	457,239						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (10 weeks)	3,654,470	4,255,628	D 14.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
9 Weeks cumulative	141.2	159.5	D 11.5
Week ended March 6	17.0	19.3	D 11.8
10 Weeks cumulative	158.2	178.8	D 11.5

AARt-031182